

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6868

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CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, MARR, SP

SUBJECT: NPW VISITS TO SPAIN

REF: STATE 204718; JUSMG MAAG MADRID DTG 181330Z AUG 'NOTAL)

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE KING'S VISIT TO NIMITZ
AUGUST 19, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK BRIEFLY WITH
HIM CONCERNING NPW VISITS. I POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT
NIMITZ HAD VISITED MOROCCO AND WAS NOW VISITING ITALY
AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT
WOULD SOON CONSIDER FAVORABLY OUR REQUEST FOR NPW
VISITS TO SPAIN. I MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF INVITING
PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ TO PAY A VISIT TO NIMITZ, AND
THE KING ENCOURAGED ME TO PURSUE THIS AS HE SAID
SUAREZ IS MUCH INTERESTED IN MILITARY MATTERS. THE
KING WAS CERTAINLY GREATLY IMPRESSED BY WHAT HE SAW
ON NIMITZ AND I IMAGINE THAT HE WILL BE A USEFUL
ALLY ON THE SUBJECT OF NPW VISITS TO SPAIN.

2. AS MATTERS NOW STAND THE NAVY MINISTRY IS STILL
CONSIDERING THE NPW VISIT ISSUE AND HAS ASKED FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PREPARATION OF ITS
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REPORT. THE NAVY MINISTER DID NOT ACCEPT OUR

INVITATION TO VISIT NIMITZ AND THIS MAY BE DUE NOT ONLY TO FACT HE WAS ON VACATION IN GALICIA BUT ALSO TO DESIRE NOT TO MAKE SUCH VISIT UNTIL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON NPW VISITS.

3. NOW THAT THE KING'S VISIT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED I SHALL TAKE THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY, POSSIBLY THIS WEEK, TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF NPW VISITS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA. I DO NOT WANT TO PRESS TOO HARD AS THIS COULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF BRINGING THE SPANISH NAVY ALONG HOPEFULLY TO PRODUCE A FAVORABLE REPORT. OBVIOUSLY THAT REPORT WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD GETTING A FAVORABLE DECISION BY THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

4. WITH REGARD TO A POSSIBLE VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE SOME SOUNDINGS HERE BEFORE PROPOSING A FORMAL INVITATION. JUST AS SOON AS I HAVE COMPLETED THE SOUNDINGS, I WILL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION.
STABLER

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